

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT COUNTIES

Advisory Meeting
March 15 2000 at 10:00 A.M.
DSS Training Center
815 "S" Street, Eureka Room
Sacramento, California

SUMMARY

1. Welcome-Hector Hernandez welcomed the PMC managers. He reported that Joeana would be out on medical leave until mid-April and that he was her acting. Hector shared a letter notifying everyone that the PPPD was now the Research And Development Division (RADD). The name change was effective immediately.
2. Agenda Review-Hector Hernandez asked the supervisors to review agenda and note any additional items. Gerry Greer requested a new item on negatives.
3. Summary Review-Hector Hernandez asked the supervisors whether there were any changes to the February summary. No changes were noted.
4. Data Reconciliation FY 2000-Hector Hernandez reported that we were going to proceed with this project in 2000, however, it was going to be done under even tighter timeframes. The dates and process will be discussed at the next PMC meeting.
5. TANF QC-Richard Trujillo stated that this begins with the May 2000 sample. Richard reminded the PMC supervisors that if the counties wanted to collect additional error information the counties had to make arrangements with the vendor and pay for any additional programming. Daphne requested that the State write a letter to the PMC counties that it would not pay for any additional software modifications and costs to collect the TANF QC. Richard will follow-up. Counties also stated that if they could reactivate class 600 it should be only programmed for warning messages and not fatal. Richard also noted that the next QDS version will be released April 21, 2000.
6. FOB Report-Tom Benson said his staff is in the process of wrapping the first quarter for 2000. He said his staff is working on revising completion times for cases. He will share his findings at a future meeting. Also, he noted that closed cases are more time consuming than previously identified and his staff is also evaluating the timeframes to do closed cases. He noted that he expects a higher regression percentage this year than in previous years due to an increase in Food Stamp differences and disallowed drops. Although the national average may drop below the 10.69% California may be significantly higher. Tom will keep the PMC supervisors up to date. Chris Waters provided the PMC supervisors a copy of all the Food Stamp federal differences compiled by Pete Flores. In addition, Chris also handed out several reports that had been requested at the previous PMC meeting. Chris also noted that most of the Corrective Action Plans with the exception of five counties have been submitted. She asked that those counties with outstanding CAP's to submit them to her as soon as possible.

7. Data Builders Presentation-Hector reported that the Q5I project was going to be delayed in order to provide the department a Feasibility Study Report. The best estimate on the FSR was that it would take about nine months to process. The original 10-1-00 implementation date will need to be moved into 2001. However, in discussions with Data Builders it appears that the application can be released and allow staff to become acquainted with the new screens. It should also reduce some of the lock up problems that have occurred with the current version. Hector will update. Jay and Richard demonstrated the latest version and took suggestions from the PMC supervisors on further modifications and revisions.
8. Organization Chart for Taskforce-Richard Trujillo handed out the latest organization chart for the Taskforce. He reported that Michael Bowman-Jones now works for him in SMU. Richard stated that counties will now be able to review Food Stamp transmittals(just like in CalWORKs) before their release. In order to streamline the comments process the counties voted to send their comments to the county regional representatives (Gerry Greer, Donna Laird and Pam Neely) who in turn will forward to either Mike or Warren. A discussion also took place on attendance by Taskforce staff at the county regional meetings. Hector noted due to staffing problems and work commitments, attendance by Taskforce staff at the regional meetings would need to be curtailed. Since most of the counties attend the PMC a commitment to have Mike, Warren and other Taskforce staff attend one meeting a month was more productive. Marietta Jubert indicated that more technical items were discussed at her Bay Area meetings than at the PMC and some of the items did not pertain to the other counties. Hector indicated that counties can organize the PMC meeting to be as technical as they wanted. This way everyone heard the same thing. Also, it was noted that the State wants the PMC supervisors to contact the appropriate Taskforce manager whenever a problem arises and not wait for the next meeting. The Taskforce is committed to resolve problems as soon as possible and if the problem applies to more than one county, the other counties will also be notified. Gail Dersheiwitz suggested that maybe the regional meetings can set up a conference call with Taskforce staff when they are needed to answer any questions that come up at the county regional meetings. It was felt that this was a workable solution.
9. Food Stamp Transmittals-Michael Bowman-Jones reviewed several draft transmittals for comments. Shelter cost verifications issues were discussed. Mike will report next month.
10. CalWorks Transmittals-Warren Ghens provided an advance copy of the CalWORKs drop case procedures. Warren also handed out Class 600 definitions and asked the PMC supervisors for comments no later than March 22. A discussion on clarifying instructions for T30 and T66 took place. Warren will report back on these issues.
11. Edits Review Team-Richard Trujillo provided an update on the work in progress he along with Gerry Greer, Pam Neely and Donna Laird. A draft of changes to the application will be released soon for all PMC supervisors to review. The edits will be included in the next QDS version to be released April 21, 2000.
12. Caseload Size-Evalyn Epps reported that she had a concern on the number of supplemental cases her county had received. Previously, when the workload went down some of her staff were taken away. Other counties indicated that they too had similar staffing problems. Frank Andersen reported that counties need to take advantage of the PCAB process to secure more staff if the workload is inappropriate for staffing levels. Frank noted that staffing requests for the WTW30 sample must be made in March and that for these positions the state and federal government pays for 100% of the staffing costs.

13. Fingerprint Imaging (40-105.32) (ACL 98-01)-Tom Broderick stated that Stanislaus County had started fingerprinting applicants. He indicated that anyone who refused would be ineligible for benefits. How will this impact case reviews? Mike and Warren will research and report next month.
14. FFY 1999 Work Participation Rate-Frank Andersen provided the PMC supervisors with a handout showing that California had met the Work Participation Rates for FFY 1999. Frank noted the significance of this achievement and how it saved California from potential sanctions.
15. Annual Conference-Daphne Criswell reported that it will be held in San Luis Obispo at the Embassy Suites. She had sent the PMC supervisors a letter requesting agenda items for the conference. The following items were suggested:
 - FNS training on review documentation requirements
 - DHS quarterly reporting (AB510)
 - Food Stamp Corrective Action topics (CFAP)
 - Data Builders Q5I demonstration
 - Data collection definitions and edits
 - Communication between state and counties; between counties
 - Documentation standards on Food Stamps (FNS)
 - Work participation, child care issues and county strategies for maximizing participation.Daphne indicated that she has made arrangements with the hotel for 50-60 attendees
16. FFY 2000 Caseload Reduction Credit-Frank Andersen covered this item with number 18 below.
17. AB 510 (Quarterly Reporting-TANF and Food Stamp Implications-Frank Andersen reported that this had been an issue proposed by the CWDA and supported by Los Angeles County. It creates some demonstration counties which will go from monthly to quarterly reporting. One aspect of it, prospective budgeting, may have implications for TANF data collection. Frank will update.
18. Stage 1 Child Care Information in Q5-Frank Andersen provided handouts that showed that counties are not collecting this data. In the entire sample there were less than 12 cases identified. It also shows that the counties are probably not spending the funds for this program. It was noted that training might be the solution. Frank will update PMC supervisors.
19. Closed Cases Sample-Gerry Greer asked why the tapes Sacramento County provided to the State for closed cases could not be forwarded to the state reviewers electronically. Hector reported that some counties do not send an electronic file and in those situations his unit as well as the reviewer create the skeleton lists to do the sample. In part this is allowed because some of the counties that do not provide an electronic file are remote and by allowing the reviewer to create a skeleton on the spot allows for the review to be done without DTVU creating the skeleton.
20. Next Meeting: April 12, 2000 at DSS Training Center; 815 "S" Street DELTA ROOM Sacramento starting at 10:00 A.M.